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SENATE BILL 627

**49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009**

INTRODUCED BY

Timothy Z. Jennings

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTITUTE; EXPANDING THE  
OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 21-12-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989,  
Chapter 44, Section 2 and Laws 1989, Chapter 45, Section 2, as  
amended) is amended to read:

"21-12-12. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION--CRITERIA.--

A. The General Richard T. Knowles legislative  
scholarship program shall be administered by the board of  
regents of the New Mexico military institute. The board of  
regents shall establish one hundred twelve scholarships  
available to New Mexico residents, one scholarship available  
for each state legislative district.

B. Annually, each state legislator may nominate

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 four prospective scholarship recipients to the board of regents  
2 of the New Mexico military institute. If a legislator has no  
3 applicant from ~~[his or her]~~ the legislator's district, that  
4 senator or representative may choose to nominate an applicant  
5 from a senate or representative district contiguous to ~~[his or~~  
6 ~~her]~~ the legislator's own district, thus maintaining  
7 geographical diversity in the corps of cadets while affording a  
8 greater opportunity for more New Mexicans to receive a  
9 scholarship. In the event no applicant is available by July 1  
10 of each year from either the legislator's district or a  
11 contiguous district, the scholarship may be awarded to any of  
12 the qualified nominees from any state legislative district.

13 C. Scholarships shall be awarded to qualifying New  
14 Mexico residents for a term not to exceed four years.

15 D. The board of regents shall establish criteria  
16 for the awarding of scholarships. Criteria shall include  
17 scholastic ability, faculty recommendations, standardized test  
18 scores, letters of recommendation, school honors and  
19 extracurricular activities."

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